

wished to see him. But his successor, the Marquis of Dufferin, (1872-1878), had an office set aside for himself in the newly completed East Block of the Parliamentary Buildings, and wrote to Macdonald that if Ministers desired to see him they need only telegraph(!) him any time between ten and three o'clock and he would come immediately to his office.⁽¹⁾ His statement that Ministers must not hesitate to come or to ask to see him clearly meant that he was anxious to keep in the closest personal contact with them and to keep himself informed on everything of importance that was going on.

Down the years, various Governors General adopted programmes of daily duty according to their various inclinations. There was an Office in Rideau Hall, where in later years, in the time of Grey, the Governor General's Secretary and certain other staff laboured; and there was also an Office in the East Block, where the Assistant Secretary of the Governor General worked and kept the documents properly flowing to the Privy Council, or the Prime Minister. Earl Grey, like later Governors General, seems to have made almost daily visits to the East Block, where he could consult with Sir Wilfrid or other Ministers, although Laurier also made periodical calls, often for Sunday tea or dinner, at Government House.*

(1) G.D. 6/27. Dufferin to Carnarvon. Dec.8, 1874.
Cit. in G. Neuendorff, op. cit. p. 144

* Various Governors General kept different schedules for visits to the Parliamentary Office. Lord Tweedsmuir (1935-40) for example, went up to the East Block once a week in the morning, where any of the M.P.'s who wished to do so could come and talk to him. (John Buchan, by His Wife and Friends. p. 236).

In 1941 the Governor General's Office in the East Block was discontinued and the space was used for other purposes; the Governor General and his staff establishing the Office entirely at Rideau Hall.